



DFIRS NEWS

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System

Volume 2, Issue 13

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Status Report from the Program Manager

There are still only 13 remaining departments not participating in the DFIRS program. If your department is not participating in the DFIRS program please contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach for immediate assistance.

Number of Departments Not Participating Per County:

- New Castle County = 11 departments
- Kent County = 1 department
- Sussex County = 1 department

There is a lot of ground to cover in order to meet the goal of 100% participation by the end of 2002 so lets give it our best effort!

False Alarm Article

On September 18, 2002, *The News Journal* ran an article "Fire marshal [sic] sounds off on false alarms" based on an interview with Fire Marshal Preston. This article outlines the proposed legislation and the serious nature of false alarms in our state.

DFIRS data is currently being utilized by our agency in the effort to assist the fire service with the serious issue of false alarms. This is just one example of how DFIRS is making a difference in the state and for the fire service.

Fire Department Identification Numbers

While entering incident reports where automatic/mutual aid was given the FDID number of the department receiving aid is requested. The numbering scheme for Delaware's FDID numbers is:

New Castle County - 200 plus two-digit station number
Example - Delaware City's FDID number is 20015

Kent County - 300 plus two-digit station number
Example - Cheswold's FDID number is 30043

Sussex County - 400 plus the two-digit station number
Example - Greenwood's FDID number is 40078

Note: Wilmington Fire Department's number is 10100.

A complete listing of Delaware FDID numbers is available at:
<http://www.delawarestatefiremarshal.com/dfirsinfo.htm>

Software Update

You may have heard about a new version of NFIRS. These versions of NFIRS are simply where the US Fire Administration updates the values and fields for incident reporting. Version updates usually occur twice a year and provide the users of NFIRS with requested changes. The newest version 5.2 is now available.

Departments using the free federal software will need to either download the upgrade from <http://www.nfirs.fema.gov/> or receive a copy of the new software along with installation instructions from our office. Departments using third party software should request the newest version from their software vendor.

Updating to the newest version needs to be accomplished by all departments; however, there will be no major short-term problems if companies continue to use the version they currently have.

For further clarification or explanation on this update please contact Crystal Beach.

Congratulations!

The following departments are active electronic DFIRS participants:

1. Indian River Volunteer Fire Co
2. Lewes Fire Department Inc
3. Bethany Beach Fire Co
4. Little Creek Volunteer Fire Co
5. Elsmere Fire Co #1 Inc
6. Citizen's Hose Co #1 Inc
7. Volunteer Hose Co
8. Dover Robbins Hose Co #1 Inc
9. Cheswold Volunteer Fire Co
10. Carlisle Fire Co Inc
11. Dagsboro Fire Co
12. Frankford Volunteer Fire Co
13. Selbyville Volunteer Fire Co
14. Seaford Volunteer Fire Dept Inc
15. Roxana Volunteer Fire Co
16. Farmington Fire Co
17. Clayton Fire Co #1 Inc

Release Date: October 16, 2002

**BUSH ADMINISTRATION PUTS UNPRECEDENTED
RESOURCES INTO PREPARING AND PROTECTING
THE NATION'S FIREFIGHTERS**

**Training and Equipment Will Help Keep Communities
Safe**

WASHINGTON - The Bush Administration - through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Fire Administration - provided more resources in 2002 to state and local communities to help prepare and protect firefighters than have ever been provided in a single year in the history of the United States.

"President Bush made a solid commitment to help prepare and protect our firefighters and other first responders and he has backed it up with an historic level of resources," said Joe M. Allbaugh, Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). "The President knows how important firefighters are to our nation's preparedness and response capabilities and he is making sure that they are provided with the most up to date training and equipment."

At the end of fiscal year 2002, FEMA and USFA had awarded more than \$170 million to 2,756 fire departments throughout the United States under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. An additional \$190 million will be awarded before the end of calendar year 2002, with at least 5,500 fire stations having received funds for training or equipment upgrades and purchases. In 2001, 1,886 grants for a total of \$96,586,668 were awarded to local fire departments and fire service organizations.

"State and local governments have to determine their own needs for firefighting personnel," continued Allbaugh. "But the Federal government has a significant role to play in keeping communities safe by preparing and protecting those firefighters through money for training and equipment. Whether it is for career firefighters or volunteer firefighters, who make up 88% of our nation's firefighting force, the Bush administration is making that money available at unmatched levels."

President Bush requested an unprecedented \$3.5 billion for grants for first responders, including firefighters, for FY2003. Congress is still considering the president's request.

18. Felton Community Fire Co
19. Wilmington Fire Dept
20. Greenwood Volunteer Fire Co
21. Camden-Wyoming Fire Co Inc
22. Magnolia Volunteer Fire Co Inc
23. Bowers Fire Co
24. Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
25. Laurel Fire Dept Inc
26. Millville Volunteer Fire Co
27. Leipsic Volunteer Fire Co
28. Five Points Fire Co
29. Houston Volunteer Fire Co
30. Rehoboth Beach Vol Fire Co
31. Delmar Fire Dept Inc
32. Georgetown Fire Co Inc
33. Ellendale Volunteer Fire Co
34. Harrington Fire Co Inc
35. Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Co
36. Delaware City Fire Co
37. Odessa Fire Co
38. Milton Fire Dept Inc
39. Blades Volunteer Fire Co
40. Port Penn Volunteer Fire Co
41. Gumboro Volunteer Fire Co
42. Marydel Volunteer Fire Co Inc
43. Hockessin Fire Co
44. Townsend Fire Co
45. Hartly Volunteer Fire Co
46. Belvedere Fire Co
47. Memorial Fire Co Inc
48. South Bowers

*For more information regarding the Delaware Fire
Incident Reporting System (DFIRS), please contact
Crystal Beach at 302-739-5665 or cbeach@state.de.us*

PLEASE POST FOR ALL DEPARTMENT MEMBERS